

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

08/798,703

Applicant(s)

HICKMAN ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Dieu-Minh Le

2114

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the interview on 03/08,16,20/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,21-25,27-41 now as 1-21.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

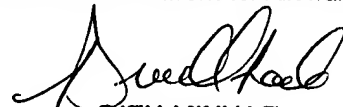
* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 200604/03.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


DIEU-MINH LE
PRIMARY EXAMINER

1. This office action is in response to the Interview on 03/08/2006, 03/16/2006, 03/20/2006 and the communication filed 11/22/2005.

2. Claims 1, 21-25, and 27-41 now as 1-21 are allowable over the prior art of record.

The following is an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance:

After careful consideration of Applicant's Remarks filed on 04/30/03, the Arguments [pages 4-17] are deemed to be persuasive. The prior arts of records do not teach nor suggest a system or a method having the limitations of claims 1, 32, 36, 37, and 41 in particular:

wherein said advertising information for said selected host computer includes information about the poster of said host computer, password information for said host computer, and collaboration information for said host computer.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably **accompany** the Issue Fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. An Examiner's Amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 C.F.R. § 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace all prior versions of claims in the application with the current listing claims in the **ATTACHMENT:**


4. Authorization for this Examiner's Amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Paul L. Hickman, Registration No. 28, 516 on March 08, 2006.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably **accompany** the Issue Fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dieu-Minh Le whose telephone number is (571) 272-3660. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday from 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Scott Baderman can be reached on (571) 272-3644. The Tech Center 2100 phone number is (571) 272-2100.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


DIEU-MINH THAI LE
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 2114

DML
04/02/2006

ATTACHMENT:

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION OR MAILING: I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO at Central FAX Number 571-273-8300 or is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on:

Date: _____

Paul L. Hickman**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Hickman et al.

Examiner: LE, Dieu Minh T.

Serial No.: 08/798,703

Group Art Unit: 2184

Filing Date: 02/12/97

For: **Method and Apparatus for Controlling a Computer Over a Wide Area Network**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Dear Sir:

A telephonic interview was held on March 8, 2006 between the Examiner and the Applicant at the Examiner's invitation. Present were Dieu Minh T. Le and Paul L. Hickman. During the interview, the scope of claim 1 was discussed. Applicant stated his position that claim 1 and, in fact, all of the pending claims, were patentable over the art of record. However, solely for the purpose of expediting the issuance of this long-pending application, Applicant agreed to allow the Examiner to add the limitations of claim 26 to claim 1 and the other independent claims. Applicant's agreement to the Examiner's amendments is made with traverse and without limitation or estoppel with respect to this, parent, sibling, cousin, child and other related applications. Applicant expressly reserves the right to submit these and other claims in continuing applications.

PATENT

The Examiner indicated during the interview that she had reviewed the prior art and arguments in related applications (*e.g.* USSN 60/012,905; 08/798,702; 08/798,704; 08/799,787; 08/808,882; 08/810,620; 08/810,679; 09/690,182; 10/193,738; and 11/079,932) including those related applications that were or are on appeal. Applicant offered to submit a supplemental IDS with the references cited in the related cases, but the Examiner stated that a supplemental IDS was not necessary as she had considered the art in the related cases and believed it to be either cumulative or non-material to the present application.

The Examiner also requested that claims 36 and 41 be rewritten in independent form. Applicant does so with traverse and without limitation or estoppel, again solely to expedite the issuance of this application. Also, minor errors (*e.g.* antecedent basis) have also been corrected by this amendment. Applicant respectfully submits that the above-mentioned amendments to the claims are not narrowing amendments for the purpose of patentability but, rather, are clarifying corrections.

The Examiner requested that Applicant e-mail this Interview Summary Record as a Word document to facilitate her entry of the Examiner's Amendment. Attached hereto as Appendix A are the claims with the amendments suggested by the Examiner. Any additional fees, including claim fees, can be charged to Applicant's deposit account 503539, Ref. NEO1P010.

All claims being deemed patentable, Applicant respectfully requests an early Notice of Allowance. Should there be any questions, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

Respectfully submitted,

/paul hickman/

Dated: 03/12/2006

Paul L. Hickman
Reg. No. 28,516
Tel.: 650-333-0180

CUSTOMER NUMBER 45965

APPENDIX A

1. (currently amended) A system for accessing a computer over a TCP/IP protocol network comprising:

a plurality of host computers connected to a TCP/IP protocol network, each of said host computers being capable of being remotely controlled by a client computer;

an advertising publisher computer connected to said network which receives advertising information about at least the availability and capacity of said plurality of host computers on said network; and

a client computer connected to said network operable to receive said advertising information about said plurality of computers ~~at least one host computer~~ from said publisher computer and to display said advertising information on a display of said client computer to allow a selection of a host computer among said plurality of host computers, and remote control information enabling said client computer to control a selected host computer over said network such that input events to said client computer become input events to said selected host computer and such that video output information of said selected host computer become video output information of said client computer;

wherein said advertising information for said selected host computer includes information about the poster of said host computer, password information for said host computer, and collaboration information for said host computer.

2-20. (canceled)

21. (previously presented) A system for accessing a computer over a TCP/IP protocol network as claimed in claim 1 wherein said network is the Internet.

22. (currently amended) A system for accessing a computer over a TCP/IP protocol network as claimed in claim 1 wherein said advertising publisher computer is operative to make advertising information about said plurality of host computers ~~at least one host computer~~ accessible to said client computer.

23. (previously presented) A system for accessing a computer over a TCP/IP protocol network as claimed in claim 22 wherein said advertising publisher computer creates a list of available host computers.

24. (currently amended) A system for accessing a computer over a TCP/IP protocol network as claimed in claim 23 wherein said advertising publisher computer provides said advertising information of said available host computers ~~at least one host computer~~ on a browsing web page, where a client computer may browse through said advertising information on said browsing web page and select a suitable host computer.

25. (previously presented) A system for accessing a computer over a TCP/IP protocol network as claimed in claim 23 wherein said advertising information may be received by said advertising advertisement publisher computer through a posting web page.

26. (canceled)

27. (currently amended) A system for accessing a computer over a TCP/IP protocol network as claimed in claim 1 wherein said plurality of host computers provide ~~at least one host computer provides~~ said advertising publisher computer with said advertising information.

28. (previously presented) A system for accessing a computer over a TCP/IP protocol network as claimed in claim 27 wherein said at least one advertiser computer provides a first web page having only HTML code to said advertising publisher and a second web page having HTML code and JAVA code to said advertising publisher computer, said first web page having a link to said second web page and said publisher computer operable to provide said first and second web page to said client computer.

29. (previously presented) A system for accessing a computer over a TCP/IP protocol network as claimed in claim 27 wherein said advertising information is electronically mailed to said advertising publisher computer.

30. (previously presented) A system for accessing a computer over a TCP/IP protocol network as recited in claim 27 wherein said advertising information is provided to said advertising publisher computer through said advertising publisher's web page.

31. (previously presented) A system for accessing a computer over a TCP/IP protocol network as claimed in claim 27 wherein said advertising information includes

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information allowing said client computer to establish a connection with said host computer.

32. (currently amended) A method for choosing a host machine coupled to a wide area network comprising:

providing advertisement information about a plurality of host computers connected to a wide area network to an advertiser ~~advertisement~~ machine connected to said wide area network, said advertisement information including availability information and compatibility information about said plurality of host computers;

searching said advertiser machine by a client computer connected to the wide area network to find a suitable host computer for said client computer;

sending selection information from said client computer to said advertiser machine, and receiving of said client computer connection information from said advertiser machine for a selected host computer; and

establishing a connection between said client computer and said suitable host computer such that said client computer controls the functionality of said suitable host computer wherein input events to said client computer become input events to said suitable host computer and such that video output information of said suitable host computer becomes video output information of said client computer;

wherein said advertising information for said at least one host computer includes information about the poster of said host computer, password information for said host computer, and collaboration information for said host computer.

33. (currently amended) A method for choosing a host machine coupled to a wide area network as claimed in claim 32 wherein said advertisement information provided to said advertiser advertisement machine is provided by said host computer.

34. (currently amended) A method for choosing a host machine coupled to a wide area network as claimed in claim 32 wherein searching said advertiser machine for a suitable host computer includes selecting a host computer from a list of host computers provided by said advertiser advertising machine.

35. (previously presented) A method for choosing a host machine coupled to a wide area network as claimed in claim 32 wherein said connection information provided to said client computer includes a URL address.

36. (currently amended) A computer readable media having program instructions ~~implementing the method of claim 32.~~ comprising:

a code segment providing advertisement information about a plurality of host computers connected to a wide area network to an advertiser machine connected to said wide area network, said advertisement information including availability information and compatibility information about said plurality of host computers;

a code segment searching said advertiser machine by a client computer connected to the wide area network to find a suitable host computer for said client computer;

a code segment sending selection information from said client computer to said advertiser machine, and receiving of said client computer connection information from said advertiser machine for a selected host computer; and

a code segment establishing a connection between said client computer and said suitable host computer such that said client computer controls the functionality of said suitable host computer wherein input events to said client computer become input events to said suitable host computer and such that video output information of said suitable host computer becomes video output information of said client computer;

wherein said advertising information for said at least one host computer includes information about the poster of said host computer, password information for said host computer, and collaboration information for said host computer.

37. (currently amended) A method of providing an advertising machine capable of advertising available host machines over a wide area network comprising:

providing an advertising machine connected to a network;

providing a list of available host computers connected to said network on said advertising machine; and

servicing a request for said list of available host computers to a client machine coupled to said network, such that said client machine may connect to a host computer selected from said list, whereby said client machine can control the functionality of said host computer over said network;

wherein said advertising information for said at least one host computer includes information about the poster of said host computer, password information for said host computer, and collaboration information for said host computer.

38. (previously presented) A method of providing an advertising machine capable of advertising available host machines over a wide area network as claimed in claim 37 wherein said advertising information received by said advertising machine is provided by said host computers.

39. (previously presented) A method of providing an advertising machine capable of advertising available host machines over a wide area network as claimed in claim 38 wherein said advertising information received by said advertising machine includes connection information for said host computer, said connection information allowing said host computer to be accessed over a TCP/IP protocol network.

40. (previously presented) A method of providing an advertising machine capable of advertising available host machines over a wide area network as claimed in claim 37 wherein providing information about said available host computers includes creating a web page having said advertising information for said host computers.

41. (currently amended) A computer readable media having program instructions ~~implementing the method of claim 37.~~ comprising:

a code segment providing an advertising machine connected to a network;

a code segment providing a list of available host computers connected to said network on said advertising machine; and

a code segment servicing a request for said list of available host computers to a client machine coupled to said network, such that said client machine may connect to a host computer selected from said list, whereby said client machine can control the functionality of said host computer over said network;

wherein said advertising information for said at least one host computer includes information about the poster of said host computer, password information for said host computer, and collaboration information for said host computer.